

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DRC-01 CU-04 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-15

ACDA-19 IO-14 /192 W

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R 260946Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9693

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 13822

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT JA ID

SUBJ: ANTI-JAPANESE ACTIVITY IN INDONESIA

REF: JAKARTA 13588

SUMMARY: TWENTY FIVE STUDENTS DEMONSTRATED PEACEFULLY
IN FRONT OF JAPANESE EMBASSY NOV 24, PROTESTING JAPANESE
INVESTMENT AS HARMFUL TO INDONESIAN INTERESTS AND TO
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, AND, LESS DIRECTLY,
CRITICISING GOI OFFICIALS FOR THEIR ROLE. JAPANESE
EMBOFF KUBOTA CALLED PROTEST "GOOD MEDICINE FOR TOKYO" AND
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BELIEVES COINCIDENTAL VISITS OF LDP GROUP AND MITI

ENVOY MOROZUMI WILL INSURE INCREASED HIGH-LEVEL ATTENTION TO WORSENING JAPANESE IMAGE IN INDONESIA. DESPITE THE FEELINGS INVOLVED, EMBASSY DOUBTS THAT GOI WILL PERMIT ANTI-JAPANESE DEMONSTRATIONS TO DEVELOP TO POINT WHERE MAJOR BUSINESS INTERESTS MIGHT BE DAMAGED.

1. GROUP OF APPROXIMATELY 25 STUDENTS FROM PAJAJAREN AND PARAHYANGAN UNIVERSITIES IN BANDUNG HELD PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION IN FRONT OF JAPANESE EMBASSY AT 11AM NOV 24 TO PROTEST JAPANESE INVESTMENT IN INDONESIA. JAPANESE WARNED IN ADVANCE BY BAKIN (REFTEL) BUT INDONESIAN AUTHORITIES DID NOT ALERT EMBASSY TO EXACT TIMING AND PROBABLE SIZE OF DEMONSTRATION. HOWEVER, JAPANESE WERE ABLE TO GUESS BY ARRIVAL OF 30-MAN SECURITY FORCE EARLY THAT DAY.

2. SINCE DEMONSTRATION SMALL AND PEACEFUL, ENTIRE GROUP WAS RECEIVED BY POL COUNSELOR MOGI, WHO ACCEPTED PROTEST AND PROMISED TO FORWARD IT TO TOKYO. MOGI, WHO NEWLY ARRIVED AND WORKING THROUGH INTERPRETER, TRIED RATHER INEFFECTUALLY TO BLUNT CRITICISM BY REFERERRING TO FAVORABLE (TO INDONESIA) BALANCE OF TRADE FIGURES.

3. PROTEST NOTE (WHICH KUBOTA SHOWED EMOFF) STARTS WITH REFERENCE TO UNFORTUNATE INDONESIAN IMAGE OF JAPAN BASED ON WARTIME OCCUPATION WHICH "SHOULD BE IMPROVING" AND STATES (A) JAPANESE METHOD OF INVESTMENT IN INDONESIA IS DAMAGING RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES; (B) IN INVESTING IN INDONESIA, JAPANESE SHOULD CONSIDER INDONESIAN INTERESTS AND NOT ACT LIKE "ECONOMIC ANIMALS" AND (C) JAPANESE SHOULD NOT LEAD INDONESIAN OFFICIALS TO BECOME PARTIES TO DAMAGING INDONESIA'S INTERESTS.

4. THERE WAS NO REFERENCE TO ROLE OF JAPANESE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE (THROUGH IGGI) SUCH AS MARKED THE VISIT OF DUTCH MINISTER PRONK. POSTERS CARRIED BY STUDENTS MADE SIMILAR POINTS, BUT INCLUDED SOME MORE SHARPLY WORDED SUCH AS "OUR REGARD FOR JAPANESE PEOPLE IS DAMAGED BY ECONOMIC ANIMALS AND SELLERS OF THIS COUNTRY," AND
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"FLOOD OF WOOD TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES, FLOOD OF MUD TO OUR COUNTRY."

5. ACCORDING TO SOME REPORTS DEMONSTRATORS ALSO MADE SIMILAR PROTEST AT HOUSE OF "MR JAPAN" PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT SUDJONO HUMARDANI. JAPANESE EMBASSY INTRIGUED TO FIND OUT WHETHER THIS IS TRUE, BUT HAS NOT AS YET BEEN ABLE TO VERIFY STORY THROUGH APPROPRIATE INDIRECT SOURCES.

(WE DOUBT DEMONSTRATION WOULD GO THAT FAR).

6. JAPANESE EMBASSY OFFICERS ARE SOMEWHAT BOTHERED BY FAILURE OF INDONESIAN AUTHORITIES TO PROVIDE FINAL ALERT PRIOR TO WHAT WAS CLEARLY AN ORGANIZED PROTEST. THEY WERE FAVORABLY IMPRESSED WITH ORDLINESS OF DEMONSTRATION, TIMELY PRESENCE OF SECURITY FORCES (FOUR MEN REMAIN ON DUTY IN THEIR CHANCERY LOBBY) AND CONTENTS OF THE PROTEST WHICH ECHO WHAT THEIR EMBASSY HAS BEEN TELLING TOKYO FOR A LONG WHILE ("GOOD MEDICINE FOR TOKYO," AS KUBOTA VDT IT.) SINCE LDP (NEMOTO) MISSION STILL IN INDONESIA AND SPECIAL (MITI) ENVOY YOSHIKIKO MOROZUMI HAS JUST ARRIVED TO EXPLORE RESOURCES ASPECT OF PM TANAKA'S JANUARY VISIT, JAPAN EMBASSY FEELS THERE IS A GREATER CHANCE THAT GOJ WILL BECOME FULLY AWARE OF DEVELOPING ANTI-JANESE CLIMATE HERE, AS SHOWN BY PROTEST DEMONSTRATION. MEANWHILE THE SANYO TOYOTA ADVERTISEMENT ON TOP OF JAPARTA'S TELLEST BUILDING, WHICH WAS SET UP LAST YEAR OVER BITTER PROTEST OF JAPANESE AMB TANAKA WHO THINKS IT UNACCEPTABLY "KOSHISEI"(HIGH POSTURE), HAS BEEN DARK FOR TWO NIGHTS.

7. ANTI-JAPANESE SENTIMENT SUCH AS THAT EXPRESSED BY THE STUDENTS IS WIDELY HELD IN INDONESIA, NOT EXCLUDING GOVERNMENT CIRCLES. HOWEVER, WE SERIOUSLY DOUBT THAT GOI WOULD SO LOSE SIGHT OF ITS MAJOR ECONOMIC (AND IN MANY CASES PERSONAL) INTERESTS AS TO PERMIT ANTI-JAPANESE DEMONSTRATIONS TO DEVELOP TO SUCH A MAGNITUDE THAT JAPANESE BUSINESS INTERESTS WOULD BE SCARED OFF. ACCORDING PRESS, BANDUNG STUDENTS ARE NOW TALKING ABOUT LAUNCHING BOYCOTT OF JAPANESE GOODS AS NEXT STEP IN PROTEST, ALTHOUGH JAPANESE EMBASSY HAS SEEN NO SIGN OF IT YET.

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